GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4215
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2017
Diseases due to Poverty
Nete Shri Ashok Mahadeorao

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the World Health Organisation (WHO), a major cause of diseases is poverty;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the WHO has given any suggestion for prevention of deaths cause due to poverty; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and corrective measures taken by the Governemnt in this regard?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a): According to World Health Organization, poverty is considered an important social determinant of health and an important contributor to ill-health in many contexts. Poverty and ill health are often closely linked.

(b): Various Ministries of Government of India, in participation with State Governments, are implementing large number of schemes and programmes for poverty alleviation. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing National Health Mission to address the health needs of the people, particularly the poor and under privileged, by promoting access to quality health services, reducing out of pocket expenses inter alia through free drugs and diagnostics initiatives, controlling/eliminating vaccine preventable diseases, Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakarma etc. Further, Rastriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) provides health insurance coverage of Rs. 30000/- per annum to Below Poverty Line families and 11 other defined categories of unorganized workers.

(c) & (d): WHO recommends moving towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and to develop mechanisms for financial protection from health related expenditures and access to quality health services at affordable cost.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has adopted the National Health Policy 2017 with a mandate to achieve the highest possible level of good health and wellbeing, through a preventive and promotive health care orientation in all developmental policies, and to achieve universal access to good quality health care services without anyone having to face financial hardship as a consequence.
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